UNDP

UNITED NATIONS

DEVELOPMENT

PROGRAMME

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DP/PROJECTS/7461

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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF NEPAL

IPF:(1992-96) $77 770 000

(NEP/92/012) - District Agriculture Planning

Date of approval:	23 October 1992
Expected duration:	Two years
Proposed executing agency:	Government
Government implementing agency:	Ministry of Agriculture
Proposed UNDP contribution:	$ 461 000 Source of funds: IPF
Total UNDP budget:	$ 461 000

Project background

The democratically-elected Government of Nepal has emphasized that all planning and development activities, including those related to agriculture and rural development, should be directly responsive to the needs of the people. The concern is not only to meet household food requirements of farmers but also to increase their income through on-and off-farm activities. In the agriculture sector, the Government has decided to adopt decentralized district planning exercises, where local people have the opportunity to participate in the planning process, so as to determine and exploit the comparative advantages which each district may have, and then to allocate Government resources to those districts in a most rational manner.

The Eight Five-Year Plan has clearly underlined the need for an inter-sectoral approach to district agricultural planning. To achieve this end, the Government has requested UNDP technical assistance. Keeping in view the importance of the district agriculture planning and its potential in the overall economic growth of the country, UNDP assistance is expected to operationalize the concept of district level agriculture planning by involving the beneficiaries in formulating the agriculture plans through a process of "convergent planning", which combines the articulation of local level needs and aspirations along with a consideration of central policy level concerns.

Description of project

The development objective of the project is to contribute to the attainment of improved income generation through increased agriculture production in rural areas and thereby to alleviate the poverty.

The immediate objectives of the project are to: (a) prepare operational district agricultural plans in the selected twenty districts; and (b) improve the agricultural planning capability of the officials of the Ministry of Agriculture, and its twenty district level offices, the District Development Committee members and beneficiaries.

Project activities will include: (a) preparing planning guidelines; (b) mobilizing planning teams to visit rural areas; (c) organizing training programmes for officials and local representative groups; and (d) preparing training methodology. The project outputs will consist of 20 operational district plans, a large number of officials (approximately 700) trained in the operational district agricultural planning techniques and training methodologies for use in other districts.

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Inputs

UNDP will provide an international agriculture planning economist (four work-months); unspecified consultancies (four work-months); a subcontract for organizing, fielding and supervising the planning teams, and for in-country field level training in 20 districts; a study tour by senior planning staff in a suitable country in the region; and a computer and printer.

Financial data

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Personnel	132 000
Subcontract	282 000
Training	20 000
Equipment	17 000
Miscellaneous	10 000
Total	461 000

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